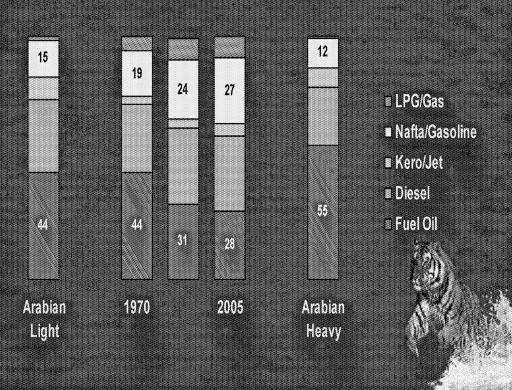
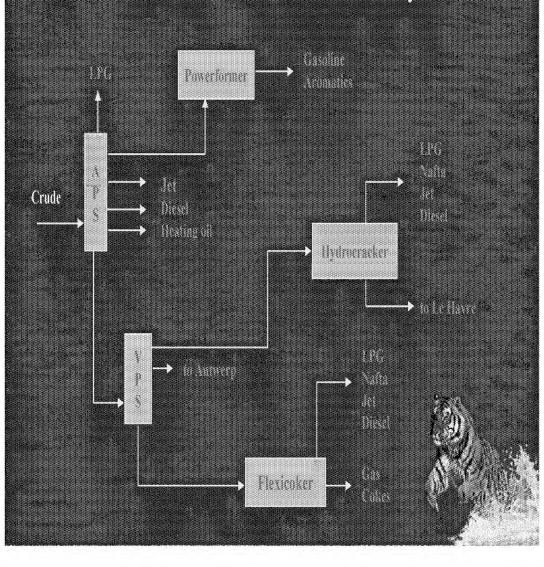
Market demand and crude oil supply



Esso Rotterdam Refinery



Vacuum Residue Conversion Processes

Considerations:

- Market demands for light products
- Environmental legislation for cleaner products
- Stricter regulations on refinery emissions
- Vacuum residue contains a lot of carbon and little hydrogen but also 3-5% sulphur, nitrogen and metals like vanadium and nickel



Vacuum Residue Conversion Processes

Two routes for vacuum residue conversion:

- ☐ Hydrogen addition processes : Residfining, Hycon
 - high temperature, high hydrogen pressure
 - rapid catalyst deactivation requires large reactors or moving catalyst
 - sensitive for metal contaminants
 - products do not need any further treating
- □ Carbon rejection by thermal cracking : Delayed Coking, FLUID and FLEXICOKING
 - high temperature, low pressure, no hydrogen
 - no catalyst, abundant coke
 - insensitive to contaminants
 - low refinery SO2 emissions
 - products need after treatment in conventional hydrofiners

Flexicokers

All build 1980 - 1990, investment > 1 billion \$\$

Rotterdam NL ExxonMobil
Baytown USA-Tx ExxonMobil
Martinez USA-Ca Shell
TOA Japan State-owned
Amuay Venezuela State-owned

Why only 5 Flexicokers in the world?

- Initial investment
- Mechanical cost (mainly in Turnaround)
- Runlength

SIMPLIFIED FLEXICOKER PROCESS

